

HOUSE BILL 2152

By Briley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
relative to election procedures and equipment and
to enact the "Voter Confidence and Increased
Accessibility Act of 2007".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

2-__-__.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary and consistent with federal law, any voting system purchased or leased with federal, state or local funds shall provide that the ballot of record shall be a paper ballot marked by the voter, with appropriate accommodation for persons with disabilities. Such ballot shall be available for the voter to verify such voter's vote before having it counted and retained by the election officials. The system shall maintain the secrecy of the voter's choices and the ballots of record shall be used in any recounts, contests, or random samplings for accuracy.

(b) The secretary of state and the state election commission are authorized, with the various county election commissions, to implement the provisions of this act for any new purchases after the effective date of this act. In addition, they are authorized to expedite the replacement or modification of any systems that are not in compliance with this act as soon as practical. Federal "Help America Vote Act" funds previously allocated, or any similar funds allocated in the future shall be used to the extent such funds are eligible.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.